





PRE-CRUISE LAND PROGRAM – CAPPADOCIA, TURKEY

(Complimentary Pre-Cruise Land Program)

Truly destination-immersive and all-inclusive:

- Deluxe accommodation
- All Transfers are included
- Most meals and beverages
- All tours and entrance fees to sites
- Gratuities for the guides and drivers
- Dedicated Tour Manager who will be with you for the entire Program

Exploring the Valleys, Caves and Extraordinary Rock Formations of Magical, Mystical Cappadocia Duration: 4 Days / 3 nights Meals: Some

Come explore magical, mystical Cappadocia, with its fairy tale landscape of natural wonders and colorful history.

<u>Day 1</u>

After arriving in Istanbul, you will transfer to your overnight hotel (TBA) and check-in. The remainder of the day and evening are at your leisure.

<u>Day 2</u>

Following an early breakfast at the hotel, check-out and transfer to the airport to catch your flight to Kayseri in central Turkey – the gateway to the Cappadocia region. The area at times seems like something out of a dream, with its deep valleys, fissures, and slopes that were turned into cones and columns as mother nature carved away at the lava rock. The volcanic rock is also perfect for carving entire buildings and the area is famous for these carved homes, stables, churches, and small cells used by hermits and monks. Many people still live in these rock formations, which are naturally cool in the summer.

When you first arrive, you will find yourself in an area that resembles the surface of the Moon and it is here your adventure begins. Start by seeing the natural citadel of Uchisar, which will allow you to get an extraordinary panoramic view of the region. Enjoy lunch at a nearby restaurant before taking the walking path that connects to the Göreme Valley. This valley houses the Göreme Open Air Museum which features churches and monasteries hewn out of rock that are adorned with colorful frescoes. From here, drive to the town of Avanos for check-in at the Anka Cave Suit Hotel where you will spend the night. The evening is at your leisure with dinner on your own.

<u>Day 3</u>

If you like, you can start your day with an early morning optional hot air balloon ride over the region. It's an unforgettable experience as you silently glide over the dramatic landscape while the sun rises and casts its light on the scenery below. Coming back to earth, have a late breakfast at your hotel and then set out for a full day of exploring. Head first to the south of Nevsehir for a visit to the underground city of Kaymakli. Used for centuries as a place of refuge, these underground cities were mostly abandoned after 1923.

Continue with a drive to the Ihlara Valley with its incredible gorge that has a stunning river running right down the heart of the valley. Near the province of Aksaray, it is still considered part of the southern Cappadocia region. Take an easy walk along a leafy nature trail dotted with numerous cave churches you can explore. Then, following lunch in the picturesque town of Beli Sirma, you will head to Derbent and the Guvercinlik (Pidgeon) Valley for an orientation tour and a chance to do some shopping. At the end of your activities, return to the hotel where dinner is on your own and the remainder of the evening is at your leisure.

Day 4

Your final day starts with breakfast at the hotel and then a transfer to the airport where you will catch your flight back to Istanbul where you will embark the ship.

Special Note: This tour includes a significant amount of moderate to strenuous walking/standing that includes numerous steps and uneven surfaces. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests and is not considered suitable for those with walking difficulties or other health concerns. Guests should be in reasonably good physical condition. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat walking shoes; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen. Shoulders and legs must be covered when entering any religious sites. All shopping and/or carpet demonstrations are optional and at the guest's discretion.